

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Sub a1
Cont

1. An image pickup apparatus comprising:
imaging means for performing one read-out operation to
5 read out data of half of all pixels;
incident-light quantity adjusting means for adjusting
a quantity of light incident upon the imaging means; and
drive/control means for driving/controlling the
incident-light quantity adjusting means in such a manner as
10 to block an incident light upon the imaging means while data
of all the pixels is read out from the imaging means.

2. The image pickup apparatus according to claim 1
further comprising:
15 memory means for storing the data of all the pixels read
out from the imaging means;
field generating means for fetching pixel data every
two adjacent lines out of the data of all the pixels stored
in the memory means and then summing the thus fetched pixel
20 data, thereby generating a first field and a second field
which is shifted by one line from the first field; and
picture generating means for generating one frame of
still pictures based on data of pixels of the first field and
the second field.

3. The image pickup apparatus according to claim 2
further comprising display-format converting means for
mutually converting a picture-display format between a first
picture-display format and a second picture-display format.

4. The image pickup apparatus according to claim 2
further comprising mixing means for mixing a first picture
with a second picture.

ADD a1